

Document: (TS//SI//NF) FISA Amendments Act Certifications and Operations
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Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Amendments Act (FAA702) operations (PRISM and Upstream) require the yearly renewal of three Certifications by the FISA Court. These were signed on 21 Sept 2012, and effective on 24 Sept 2012. Upstream providers completed their transitions to the new Certifications on 24 September 2012, and PRISM providers completed their transitions by 2 October 2012. These documents authorize FAA702 tasking and collection, with directions on targeting and minimization procedures. It is important that these Certifications were renewed, because they authorize FAA702 operations until 23 September 2013, even if Congress fails to pass, or delays passage of, a replacement bill for the 2000 FAA legislation which enables all FAA collection. The 2000 FAA law expires on 31 Dec 2012. However, the law permits operations to continue as long as the Certifications are in effect. This year's Certification renewal occurred on time, compared to 2011 when the FISA Court determined that some procedures with Upstream operations were problematic and required NSA to propose acceptable processes. Last year's problems resulted in multiple extensions to the Certifications' expiration dates which cost millions of dollars for PRISM providers to implement each successive extension - costs covered by Special Source Operations.